

**Montana ExpoPark  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Wednesday, April 26, 2017**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Jim Sargent, John Hayes, Travis McConville, Chuck Olson, and Randy Bogden

**Members Not Present:** Dale Johnson, and Kelly Manzer

**Staff Present:** Susan Shannon, and Kim Lander

**Guest Present:** Sparky Kottke

Board Chairman Jim Sargent called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm in the Atrium

**Minutes:** Chuck Olson made a motion to approve the minutes, and seconded by John Hayes. Motion carried.

**A. Public Comments**

**A. Agenda items** – None

**B. Non-agenda items, other items under our jurisdiction** – Sparky Kottke presented an information packet on portable showers/restrooms to utilize during horse racing on the backside. Open dialogue with the Advisory Board for their thoughts. Cascade County investment would be \$50K (to own the portable showers/restrooms), and it may serve as a dual purpose for horseracing and Montana ExpoPark events. The Great Falls Turf Club would not be able to make an investment towards the purchase. Jim Sargent asked the Advisory Board to look over the information packet and follow up will be on the agenda next month.

**B. Committee Reports**

**A. Livestock** – Randy Bogden reported the committee is working on setting a meeting with Mike Vanek. The Golden Triangle Preview went well and continues to keep growing.

**B. Entertainment** – None.

**C. Events & Promotions** – Jim Sargent will email Susan Shannon and Kim Lander to schedule a meeting to sit down with other mediums to implement a plan for fair media support.

**D. Long Range Planning** – None.

**C. Financial Report** – Susan Shannon provided the events report and upcoming public events. John Hayes was emailed the extended financial report. Open dialogue about March and April events.

**A. Reports – Fair Update** – Susan Shannon reported commercial vendor booths are up 36 booths in comparison to this time last year. Night show tickets went on sale this morning at 11am. On opening day last year, night shows tickets were at \$30K for the whole day. Two hours into today, night shows ticket sales were at \$50K. Susan Shannon updated the Advisory Board on public parking at the Montana State Fair will be free and limited. The trolley will be able to turn around in the parking lot with easier access to the Exhibition Hall exhibits.

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**B. Other** – Susan Shannon reported a new basketball floor is being purchased and will go out for bid for sponsors.

**D. Activity**

**A. List** – Jim Sargent reported on highlights from the last meeting. Fixing the 3 Rivers Stage, striping at the 6<sup>th</sup> Street NW gate, and the removal of marquis on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NW, which is in the process of being removed per Jim Sargent. Open dialogue about the electronic message center. Jim Sargent asked the Advisory Board to email him their top five choices to discuss at next month's meeting.

**E. Unfinished Business**

**A. 501(c) (3)** – John Hayes reported that the Advisory Board is in the process of recruiting people to sit on the 501(c)(3) board.

**B. Other** – Susan Shannon reported night show ticket sales are \$53,748 at 1:26pm.

**F. New Business**

**A. Any** – None.

**Commissionaire Report/Comment:** None

**Invited Guest Speaker:** Jim Sargent recommended Brian Clifton.

**Announcements**

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 12:30 pm in the Gold Buckle Room.

It was moved by Chuck Olson and seconded by Travis McConville to adjourn the meeting at 1:29pm. Motion carried.

Minutes Approved:

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Director of Montana ExpoPark

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Lander  
4/28/17